

an auxiliary heater disposed at an upper portion of said perform container; [and] cooling means for cooling the upper portion of said perform container; and at least one temperature sensor for measuring an internal temperature in the upper portion of said perform container, wherein said cooling means includes a control unit for adjusting the cooling quantity, based on the temperature measured by said temperature sensor.

Please cancel claim 8.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9-15 are pending in this application. Claim 7 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of claim 8 therein and claim 8 cancelled. Accordingly, the present amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

A clean copy of amended claim 7 appears in the appendix hereto.

Claims 1-2, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness predicated upon JP09-002832 (J'832) in view of JP 6-199536(J'536) or WO99/51534 (WO'534).

In the statement of the rejection, the examiner concluded that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the methodology of J'832 by enhancing the temperature lowering step by cooling means as disclosed by J'536 or WO'534. This rejection is traversed.